

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6845

BILL NUMBER: SB 312

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 24, 2008

BILL AMENDED: Jan 24, 2008

SUBJECT: County Executives.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Boots

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: CR Adopted - 1st House

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) *County Commissioners:* The bill provides that in counties other than Marion County, the boards of county commissioners are eliminated effective January 1, 2011, the county executive is a single elected chief executive officer, and the county council is the county legislative body as well as the county fiscal body.

It provides that the initial county chief executive officers are elected at the November 2010 general election.

County Council Members: The bill adds two at-large members (for a total of nine members, four elected from single-member districts, five elected at-large) to the county council of a county other than Marion, Lake, or St. Joseph County. It provides that the two additional at-large members will be elected at the November 2010 general election.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *County Commissioners:* The bill does not delete any current county executive or legislative responsibility in counties other than Marion County. It reassigns duties from a three-member board of county commissioners to a single elected chief executive, which could reduce compensation costs. However, officer compensation is determined by the county fiscal body, and any cost savings will result from the decisions of the fiscal body. Results will vary by county. Officers are compensated from the

county general fund.

(Revised) *County Council Members:* The bill could increase county costs by adding two at-large county council members to all county councils except in Lake, St. Joseph, and Marion County. The costs will vary by county as the compensation of county council members and their staff is determined in the budget process of the county.

(Revised) *Background and Additional Details -*

In all counties, the board of county commissioners is the executive of the county. It makes various appointments, such as appointing a county resident and a representative of a financial institution to the county land valuation commission and appointing the local alcohol and tobacco commission. The board also performs duties and exercises powers concerning the issuance and payment of bonds of the county and the expenditure of the unexpended proceeds of those bonds. Other statutory and constitutional duties include operating charity farms or county homes in counties with a population greater than 235,000.

The county council is both the legislative and fiscal body of the county. In all counties, except Lake, Marion, and St. Joseph County, the county council is a seven-member body. Lake and St. Joseph Counties have 9 members and Marion County has 29 members.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources:

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